

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HONG K 11230 080958Z

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /008 W

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P R 080808Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8653

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANAS ISLANDS

UNCLAS HONG KONG 11230

MANILA FOR U.S. COAST GUARD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, HK (MERKLE, ALLEN)

SUBJECT: MERKLE, ALLEN - FEB. 28, 1943

CREW MEMBER OF YACHT SOUTHER MAID

REF: HONG KONG 11071 (SAIPAN ONLY)

1. CONSULATE GENERAL HAS LEARNED FROM MISS LINDA CASHMAN, 95 WONG NEI CHONG ROAD, HONG KONG TELEPHONE 5-793701 THAT SUBJECT, AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, IS ONE OF FIVE PERSONA ABOARD AUSTRALIAN YACHT SOUTHERN MAID REPORTED MISSING ON VOYAGE FROM YAP ISLAND TO HONG KONG. SUBJECT JOINED CREW AT RABAU, NEW GUINEA SEPTEMBER 14, ACCORDING MISS CASHMAN.

2. SOUTHERN MAID, 55 FOOT STEEL SLOOP SKIPPED BY AUSTRALIAN, SID RAMSEY, LAST REPORTED SEPTEMBER 26. IT SCHEDULED DEPART YAP FOLLOWING DAY, BUT HAS NOT BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE. CONGEN HAS REQUESTED YAP DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR CONFIRM DEPARTURE DATE, VOYAGE PLANS AND NAMES, NATIONALITIES OTHER CREW MEMBERS (PRESUMED BE AUSTRALIANS). HONG KONG MARINE DEPARTMENT AND DLO HAVE ALERTED APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES INCLUDING CLARK AIR FORCE BASE AND SEVENTH FLEET, MERCHANT SHIPPING IN AREA ALSO REQUESTED REPORT SIGHTINGS OR COMMUNICATIONS WITH YACHT, MARINE DEPARTMENT ESTIMATES YACHT NOW THREE WEEKS OVERDUE AND IN VIEW SEVERE TYPHOON CONDITIONS IN AREA OF PRESUMED COURSE (YAP NORTHWEST THROUGH BALINTANG CHANNEL TO HONG KONG) EARLY

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OCTOBER, MOST APPROPRIATE SEARCH AREA WOULD BE OFF EAST COAST

OF LUZON.

3. SUBJECT'S PARENTS IDENTIFIED ONLY AS MR. AND MRS. CORKER, 7842 LONGACRE, DETROIT, MICHIGAN. BROTHER, RICHARD MERKLE, RESIDES AT 8208 FARNAUM ST., WARREN, MICHIGAN.. ACCORDING MISS CASHMAN, FAMILY NOT AWARE SUBJECT ON BOARD YACHT. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT CONTACT PARENTS AND OR BROTHER AS APPROPRIATE.

4. HICOMTERPACIS REQUESTED INFORM DEPARTMENT AND HONG KONG IF INFO RE MERKLE CONFIRMED.
OSBORN

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30 JUN 2005

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